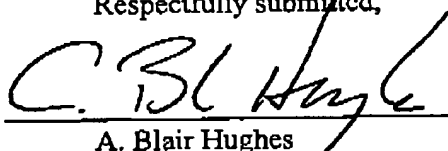


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MAY 27 2005**PATENT****IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**
(Case No. 97,008-W)**In re Application of:****Copeland et al****Serial No.: 09/931,513****Filed: August 16, 2001****For: Automated Biological Reaction
Apparatus****Examiner: Lyle Alexander****Group Art Unit: 1743****Fax No.: 703-872-9306****No. Of Pages: 8****Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450****FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL LETTER****Sir:****In regard to the above identified application:**

1. We are transmitting herewith the attached:
 - a. Reply to March 1, 2005 Official Action
2. With respect to fees:
 - a. Please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-2490.
3. **CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 CFR § 1.8:** The undersigned hereby certifies that this Transmittal Letter and the paper, as described in paragraph 1 hereinabove, are being transmitted to the USPTO facsimile number 703-872-9306, according to 37 CFR 1.6(d) addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on May 27, 2005.

Respectfully submitted,**Date: May 27, 2005****By :**
A. Blair Hughes
Reg. No. 32,901

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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
(Case No. 97,008-W)

In re Application of)	
)	
Copeland, et al.)	
)	Group Art Unit: 1743
Serial No.: 09/931,513)	
)	
Filed: August 16, 2001)	Examiner: Lyle Alexander
)	
For: Automated Biological)	
Reaction Apparatus)	

REPLY TO MARCH 1, 2005 OFFICIAL ACTION

Commissioner of Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This is a Reply to the March 1, 2005 Official Action for the above-identified application.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 5 of this paper.